(SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) DDA reports that the slum wing of Delhi Development Authority had allotted 92 flats on cash-down basis in inderlok to the registrants of 1985 registration scheme announced for slum dwellers and others after receiving their options regarding mode of payment.

(b) DDA reports that the specific draw was held in January, 1991.

Nuclear Projects in foreign Countries

2400. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for undertaking nuclear projects in any foreign country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir. The Government does not have any proposal for undertaking nuclear power projects in any foreign country as of now.

(b) Does not arise.

Regional Development during Seventh Five Year Plan

2401. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:
SHRI C. P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA:
SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME Implementation be pleased to state.

(a) whether even after seven Five-Year Plans the Government have not yet achieved equitable regional development in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c). It is not correct to say that equitable regional development has not been achieved. There are still backward areas. Balanced regional development including development of backward areas within a State is very much an objective of the planning process. However, implementation of this objective, so far as regional development is concerned, is tempered by certain inherent, historic and other characteristics of regions such as difference in resources endowment, disparities in availability of infrastructural facilities, physiographic factors and geographical conditions. So far as development of backward areas within respective States is concerned, it is actually the responsibility of the concerned States to plan for this and execute programmes through appropriate machinery established by them . In this the Central Government help them through the mechanism of transfer of resources under modified formula, previously known as 'Gadgil Formula', special area programmes and devolution of non-plan resources by the Finance commission.

Mine Sites in Indian Ocean

2402. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent survey conducted by the National Institute of Oceanography have helped in identifying many mine sites in the Indian Ocean;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these mine sites are located outside the country's exclusive economic zone; and

(d) if so, whether India has taken any steps to claim the right for exploiting these sites?